



Republican Policy Committee

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Still Waiting for the Truth

Whitewater: The American People Deserve More Than Delay And Evasion

Many of the President's supporters have charged that the Senate's Whitewater investigation is a waste of taxpayers' money. Yet, 96 Senators voted to provide the Special Committee with the \$950,000 some of them now characterize as a "waste."

Those who support shutting the Special Committee's doors also charge that the Whitewater hearings are a waste of the Senate's time and are preventing the Senate from devoting more time to other important issues. But who exactly is wasting the Senate's time? The Special Committee Chairman is justifiably frustrated when he is forced to recall witnesses twice, and even three times because of what increasingly has appeared to be deliberate evasion . . . when the production of requested and subpoenaed documents is drawn out for months by White House lawyers and months more by individual witnesses . . . when sworn testimony before Congress is reduced to a charade where witnesses leap from perfect recall of exculpatory subtleties to complete memory loss of significant events . . . and, when the White House's best and brightest profess to be dumbfounded by their own use of the English language.

Is there any doubt who is responsible for wasting the Senate's time and the taxpayers' money when it comes to Whitewater?

And, now — after the White House has taken more than two years to produce Hillary Clinton's billing records, and while critical White House documents, despite being requested months ago by the Committee, are still finding their way to Congress — Minority Leader Daschle wants to impose a time limit, not on the White House, but on the Special Committee. Rather than demanding straight answers from the White House, those in the President's party in the Senate are demanding that the Committee simply stop asking questions.

Maggie Williams Sets the Pace for White House Delay and Evasion

The First Lady's Chief of Staff, Maggie Williams, testified before the Committee on three separate occasions. Her appearances offer an example of the level of cooperation and candor displayed by a number of witnesses before the Committee.

- On June 30, 1995, the Committee requested that the White House produce the residential telephone records for Ms. Williams for the period July 20-22, 1993. This request is repeated on August 10, 1995.
- On August 24, 1995, Ms. Williams' lawyer informs the Committee that the telephone company no longer retained the July 1993 telephone records.
- On September 13, 1995, the Committee contacts the telephone company in question and is told that the July 1993 records are in fact available. Within a week, the July 1993 telephone records are provided to the Committee by the telephone company. After the Committee had received the records (nearly three months after the Committee's initial request to the White House), Ms. Williams informed the Committee that she now had the records and would "cooperate" with the investigation.

Note: While the Committee was able to obtain Maggie Williams' telephone records within a week's time, the White House's response time in producing similar telephone records was painfully slower. As detailed below, the First Lady's telephone records were not produced until nearly three months following the Committee's request, and Susan Thomases' final production of telephone records required a full six months.

Ms. Williams' version is at odds with more than just Bell Atlantic's telephone logs. There is also her disagreement with a Secret Service agent, as well as her disagreement with the sworn testimony of White House intern Thomas Castleton.

- During Committee testimony, Secret Service Officer Henry O'Neil stated that on the night of Deputy White House Counsel Vincent Foster's death, he saw Ms. Williams remove file folders from Mr. Foster's office (i.e., the White House Counsel's suite) and place them in her office. Ms. Williams flatly denies having done so.
- White House employee (and former Clinton campaign worker) Thomas Castleton testified that Ms. Williams asked him to carry a box of documents that he understood to have been removed from Vincent Foster's office. According to Mr. Castleton's testimony, he carried the documents from Ms. Williams' office to the First Lady's residence and while en route, was told by Ms. Williams that the documents "needed to be reviewed" by Mrs. Clinton.

In any event, Mrs. Clinton's Rose Law Firm billing records, bearing Mr. Foster's handwritten notes, were found over two years later by another of Mrs. Clinton's employees, Carolyn Huber, within the private residence of the White House. Neither the Clintons, nor Ms. Williams, have given an explanation of how these records that had been in Mr. Foster's possession ended up in a book room within the Clinton's highly private living quarters.

The First Lady Keeps Up the Pace

- On June 30, 1995, the Committee requested from the White House all records reflecting "communications that took place between 5:00 p.m. on July 20, 1993, and 5:00 p.m. on July 22, 1993, from or to **Hillary Rodham Clinton**."
- September 20, 1995: The Clintons' personal attorney produces for the Committee records of Mrs. Clinton's telephone calls from the Rodham residence in Little Rock, Arkansas.

Susan Thomases Follows Suit

- On July 11, 1995, the Committee requested that the White House produce certain telephone records of **Susan Thomases**, an attorney and a long-time friend and advisor of the First Lady, for July of 1993.
- August 11, 1995: Ms. Thomases informs the Committee that neither she nor the telephone company retained any records of calls made from her residence or charged to her calling card.
- October 2, 1995: Ms. Thomases produces limited records or calls made from her offices and vacation house.
- December 6, 1995: Ms. Thomases' lawyer produces for the Committee certain telephone records he had discovered "in a routine search of records for an unrelated case."
- December 11, 1995: Ms. Thomases' lawyer produces for the Committee additional telephone records.

William Kennedy Bides His Time

- On October 26, 1995, the Committee issued a subpoena to the White House for all Whitewater-related documents, among them notes taken by former Associate White House Counsel **William Kennedy** at a November 5, 1993, meeting of White House officials and the Clintons' private lawyers relating to Whitewater.
- November 2, 1995: The White House notifies the Committee that it was refusing to produce the Kennedy notes on the grounds of attorney-client privilege.
- December 5, 1995: Mr. Kennedy refuses to answer questions about the November 1993 meeting in testimony before the Committee.

- December 8, 1995: The Committee issues a subpoena to Mr. Kennedy directing him to produce his notes taken during the meeting. Mr. Kennedy refuses to comply with the subpoena.
- December 14, 1995: The Committee votes to order Mr. Kennedy to produce the notes by 9:00 a.m., December 15. Mr. Kennedy does not comply with the order.
- December 20, 1995: The full Senate adopts S. Res. 199, initiating a civil action in Federal District Court requiring Mr. Kennedy and the White House to produce the notes.
- December 22, 1995: The White House reverses its position and Mr. Kennedy presents his notes to the Committee.

The list of dilatory White House officials goes on and on. On March 1, 1996, two days after the Special Committee's funding expired, Deputy White House Counsel Bruce Lindsey's, attorney sent the Committee documents that had been requested on September 8, 1995. Likewise on February 7, 1996, Mark Gearan, former Director of White House Communications, produced handwritten notes revealing for the first time the existence of a series of high level Whitewater defense meetings in the White House during January of 1994.

Following the release of Mr. Gearan's notes, two other White House officials involved in these meetings released their own notes: White House adviser Michael Waldman produced his notes on February 13, 1996; and White House Deputy Chief of Staff Harold Ickes produced his notes on February 20, 1996. With so many people missing so many deadlines, the need for an extension of the Committee's investigation is just plain obvious.

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